

DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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ABC and Stockton Police Arrest Eight for Furnishing Alcohol to Minors

Stockton - Investigators from the California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and officers from the Stockton Police Department arrested eight suspects on April 12, 2007 for furnishing alcoholic beverages to minors. The operation was conducted in the City of Stockton.

ABC and Stockton Police conducted a program called a Decoy Shoulder Tap Operation which targets adults who purchase alcohol for people less than 21 years of age. Under the program, a minor under the direct supervision of a peace officer will stand outside a liquor or convenience store and ask patrons to buy them alcohol. The minor indicates in some way he or she is underage and cannot purchase the alcohol.

If the adults purchase alcohol for the minor, investigators then arrest and cite them for furnishing alcohol to the minor. The penalty is a minimum \$1000 fine and 24 hours of community service.

The program is intended to reduce the availability of alcohol to minors. Statistics show they generally have a higher rate of drunken driving crashes than adults.

Funding for this program was provided by a \$125,000 grant from the ABC Grant Assistance Program to the Stockton Police Department.

ABC is a department of the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under the direction of Secretary Dale E. Bonner, a member of the Governor's Cabinet.